

**In the Claims:**

Please add new claims 27-41 as follows:

- 27.(New) A method of reducing a stent in cross-section comprising the steps of  
a) providing a plurality of wedge-shaped dies, the dies disposed about a circle and  
forming an aperture;  
b) placing a stent within the aperture;  
c) moving the dies so as to reduce the size of the aperture and apply an inward force to  
the stent.
- 28.(New) The method of claim 27 wherein the stent is disposed about a medical balloon, the  
medical balloon disposed about a catheter.
- 29.(New) The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of changing the temperature  
of the dies.
- 30.(New) The method of claim 29 wherein the stent is made of nitinol.
- 31.(New) The method of claim 27 wherein at least 8 wedge-shaped dies are provided.
- 32.(New) The method of claim 27 wherein at least 16 wedge-shaped dies are provided.
- 33.(New) The method of claim 27 wherein the stent is deformed.
- 34.(New) The method of claim 27 wherein the dies are moved cooperatively inward during  
the moving step.
- 35.(New) A method of reducing a stent in cross-section comprising the steps of  
a) disposing a stent in an aperture of a device for reducing a stent in cross-section, the  
aperture defined by at least three dies disposed about the aperture;  
b) reducing the size of the aperture by moving the dies inward, the dies applying a force  
to the stent to reduce the stent in size.
- 36.(New) The method of claim 35 wherein the stent is disposed about a medical balloon, the  
medical balloon disposed about a catheter.
- 37.(New) The method of claim 35 further comprising the step of cooling the dies.
- 38.(New) The method of claim 37 wherein the stent is made of nitinol.
- 39.(New) The method of claim 35 wherein at least 8 wedge-shaped dies are provided.